

**County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health**  
**OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

Thursday, June 24, 2010

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note the minutes are a brief summary and  
not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

**Jerry Lubin Chair, Presiding**

**I. Call to Order – Jerry Lubin**

- The meeting was called to order by Jerry Lubin
- Roll Call – Canetana Hurd –  
Attendance recorded as follows:  
Absent Excused: Lana Brody, Greg Thompson, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – Jerry Lubin  
**ACTION TAKEN – May 27, 2010 minutes was unanimously  
approved by the Commission.**

**II. Chair's Report – Jerry Lubin**

Mr. Lubin announced Lana Brody resigned as Commissioner appointed by the Second District.

**Welcome and Introductions** – Mr. Lubin welcomed Kathleen Austria, Health Deputy for the Second District

**Nominations Committee** – Dr. Perrou announced the Executive Officers for fiscal year 2010/2011:

Chair – Larry Gasco  
Vice Chair – Helen Wolff  
Secretary – Delores Huffman  
Member-at-Large – Barry Perrou and Victoria Sofro  
CALMHBC Representative – Frank Baron  
Past Chair – Jerry Lubin

Congratulations to the new officers.

**Larry Gasco**

- Discussed the following agenda items at the annual retreat held June 12 at the home of Vicki Sofro:  
Susan Rajlal's efforts on health care reform  
Goals of the Commission  
Mental health services for older adults – George Caballero  
Mental health and physical disability data – Greg Thompson  
Services to homeless (housing) – Delores Huffman  
General need for additional information

- Mr. Gasco attended the CALMHBC meeting and shared details of the department's Clinical Snapshot data with the group
- Mr. Gasco recommended the Commission communicate to pay more attention to information developed by the STATS committee

### **III. Special Presentation – Marilyn Flynn, PhD, Dean of USC School of Social Work and Karen Elliott Brown, PhD, Dean of Social Work at CSULB**

Dean Marilyn Flynn along with Dean Karen Elliott Brown presented a power point presentation that focused on what's going on with DMH and universities in area of professional education, options of change and development from a service delivery perspective, and the challenges all programs face.

- Professional education at universities
  - Work in the area of aging and mental health
  - Gerontology research
  - Medical needs (ethics, politics, legislation, gerontology)
  - No programs at USC for older adults
  - Small specialization program at UCLA
  - CalWEC Aging Initiative – a statewide coalition of policy makers and collaborations to attract students
- Challenges for all programs
  - Absence of competitive stipends
  - Low salaried professional positions
  - Low status of aging population
  - Bureaucratic obstacles to hiring
  - Absence of high quality training sites
- Options of Change and Development
  - Hiring priorities and qualifications
  - Options for student work release
  - Unit field internships
  - Collaborative instructional opportunities
  - Use MHSA funding to make job opportunities in older adults services
  - Engage universities earlier in establishing work force initiatives
  - Partner with universities through subcontracts that focus on mental health service delivery
  - Support a plan for MHSA funded training programs transition from state supported initiative to DMH
  - Contracting policies and procedures
  - Collaborative research and training grants
  - Target specific populations (e.g., homeless veterans)

### **IV. Commissioners' Reports**

**George Caballero** - Discussed his plan to initiate a demonstration project under the Health Care Reform to increase older adult awareness. Mr. Caballero proposed using the issue raised in the presentation by the

university deans that DMH include an older adult concentration in MHSA education grants. This will increase student interest in older adult careers. Mr. Caballero will submit a motion to initiate a work plan for the demonstration project.

**Howard Askins** – Attended the clinical policy meeting and discussed implications that impact the health care reform issue with 1115 waiver. Dr. Askins proposed the question, “What will the department need when more people are enrolled in Medi-care.”

**Ilean Rabens** – Reported the Art SMART program starts July 9, 2010. The program has expanded and participation has doubled in size at the camps.

**Frank Baron** – Attended the CALMHBC (California Local Mental Health Board and Commission) quarterly meeting in Oakland, California. Mr. Baron reported the meetings are better organized because the bylaws were revised by Larry Gasco. Mr. Baron stated that Mr. Gasco spent a considerable amount of time typing and revising the bylaws to bring cohesiveness to the group.

**Barry Perrou** – Reported the following

- The board approved the Emergency Medical Center to move forward on overseeing a study addressing the issue of consumers transported by ambulance instead of police car and expediting patients in the hospital. A meeting pertaining to this issue will take place June 30, 2010.
- Request approval from Commission members to nominate Terry G. Lewis, Executive Director, for DMH Outstanding Employee of the Year.

**Hayward McNeill** – Attended the CALMHBC quarterly meeting. Mr. McNeill stated the CALMHBC members elected officers and look forward to a better year. Mr. McNeill announced the CALMHBC voted to grant Los Angeles County up to 5 votes because of its large geographical size and the number of members represented on the board.

**Carlos Sosa** – Reported the WET (Workforce, Education, and Training) committee postponed meetings to late July because they are facilitating focus groups on stipends and repayments.

**Delores Huffman** – Reported some potential housing providers withdrew their request letters of interest, because they found other funding sources. Ms. Huffman submitted the following housing report for June 2010:

#### **MHSA Housing Program**

Twenty-nine projects are actively participating in the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program application process. The status of each project as of June 18, 2010 is shown below:

**Developing Service Plan for Public Posting and Comment Period**

- Avalon II Family Apartments

**Preparing Technical Submission**

- New Genesis Apartments
- Swarthy World Society Apartments

**Technical Submission under Review**

- VOALA Navy Village for Families
- David & Margaret Home, Inc. – Hope Apartments

**Invitation to Submit Full Application**

- Parker Hotel
- Bobbie Owens Family Living Community

**Application Submitted to the State Pending Approval**

- Parkview on the Park Apartments
- Willis Avenue Apartments
- KIWA Apartments
- PWC Family Housing
- Osborne Place Apartments
- Figueroa Apartments
- 28<sup>th</sup> St. YMCA Residences
- Step Up on Vine (Galaxy Hotel)
- NoHo Senior Villas

**Approved for Funding by the State**

- Young Burlington
- Courtyards in Long Beach
- Glenoaks Gardens
- Progress Place I and II
- Nehemiah Court Apartments
- Villas at Gower
- Ford Apartments
- Caroline Severance Manor
- Daniel's Village
- Charles Cobb Apartments
- Epworth Apartments
- Horizon Apartments
- Menlo Family Housing

**Open for Occupancy**

- Daniel's Village
- Charles Cobb Apartments

### **Housing Trust Fund Program**

Of the 12 Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Program awardees, eight housing projects are in operation. Through the HTF Program, supportive services are being provided to approximately 200 tenants residing in permanent supportive housing. The provision of services assists formerly homeless tenants maintain their housing and pursue their recovery goals. Originally scheduled to open March 2010, the Bonnie Brae Apartments' opening has been delayed due to issues related to the project-based subsidies awarded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Construction has begun for Project Home, the Downtown Women's Center housing project. Project Home is scheduled to open in December 2010. The remaining projects, Glenoaks Gardens Apartments and Mini Twelve Step are slated to open in winter 2011.

### **Ongoing & Upcoming Activities**

#### **Housing Assistance Program**

The Department provides financial resources for clients moving into housing from homelessness by paying the security deposit and purchasing the basic essentials to furnish their apartment. In addition, financial resources are available to pay one month's rent in arrears to prevent eviction and ongoing rental assistance for qualified clients. The funding sources for the Housing Assistance Program include Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness and MHSA. During the period July 1, 2009 through June 18, 2010, the Department assisted the following numbers of clients with securing permanent housing:

- 229 clients and/or their families with the security deposit at the time of move-in;
- 207 clients and/or their families with purchasing household goods;
- 21 clients with eviction prevention; and
- 56 clients with ongoing rental assistance.

#### **V. Departmental Report – Dr. Robin Kay, Chief Deputy Director**

**MHSA** – Dr. Kay reported the department has moved forward on PEI (Prevention and Early Intervention) plans. RFP solicitation has been delayed because of the budget situation. The focus of DMH is to work with the existing 57 contract providers for transformation. DMH will look into streamlining the RFP process.

**Health Care Reform** – Dr. Kay, Rod Shaner, and Olivia Celis will lead the planning efforts for the health care reform initiative; they will review:

- Services for high utilizers

- Services for populations and underrepresented populations, public safety net sector services, and collaborations with other county departments
- Investment and prevention

**STATS Process** – STATS process is a performance-based management communication tool to report and reward performance in mental health service delivery. It is solely internal within DMH directly operated clinics. Methodology is based on a business plan because they are readily available. STATS Process meets monthly and share data with every manager and programs. The benefits of the STATS process are increased revenue, reflects actual service delivery, and quality of services to clients.

- Performance-Base Management
  - Facilitate organizational accountability, improvement and decision-making
  - Continuous/ongoing review of operational units
  - Commitment to specific action plans
  - Regular follow-up
  - Monitor change over time
- Strategic Development
  - Data available to weigh toward fiscal and business operations and challenges
  - Test whether the lives of people with psychiatric disorders improve (quality of care and client outcomes)

#### **Budget Report**

- Realignment has increased a small amount
- Reimbursement rates are still at a lower rate, may change from July 2010 through January 2011.

#### **Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal, Legislative Analyst**

Ms. Rajlal provided an update on several legislative decisions made by the Senate and Federal court, and other activities involving assembly bills:

- Federal court rejected the lawsuit filed by the Coalition for Parity (mental health).
- The Democratic Party lack required votes due to vacancies. Legislative activity is on hold until someone gets elected. In the interim, the legislation is on vacation for the month of August.

#### **VI. Community and SAAC Reports - None**

**SAAC 2** – Roberta Burkenheim reported the SAAC meeting met June 10, 2010. In attendance were adult and children service providers from; out patient services, schools, hospitals, consumers, family of consumers, Dorothy

Ross-Chair, Eva Carrera-District Chief, and James Randall-Outreach Coordinator. Ms. Burkenheim reported on the following:

- The meeting included discussion of the President's Health Care package. The discussion was agreed to continue to future meetings as the implementation process takes place.
- The System Leadership Team information was discussed and its importance to mental health recovery.
- The Client Run Center gave a presentation on the self help groups and clubs provided for and attended by consumers.
- The Client Run Center received recognition from State Senator Fran Pavley 23 District for all their great work.
- It was announced that Pat Moore, Service Area SSI-Med-i-cal Worker has retired after 39 years of dedicated service to our consumers. Next meeting is July 8, 2010.

**SAAC 6** – Delores Huffman reported the SAAC has been recruiting members and is ready to submit their recommendations to DMH. They are also ready to move in to a new facility.

**VII. Public Comments –**

- **MC Harris** – Commented on the presentation; universities consider recovery and wellness in the academic programs they plan to develop.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

**IX. PLEASE NOTE NEXT MEETING LOCATION**

**Thursday, July 22, 2010  
Noon – 2:30 pm  
500 W. Temple Street  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration - Room 739  
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Submitted by Canetana Hurd